Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Friday 30 Dec 2022 until 23:59 on Saturday 31 Dec 2022

Forecast Issued on Friday 30 Dec 2022 at 02:34

Confidence: High for unsettled conditions to last through the weekend and much of next week with a window of quieter weather on Monday. Lower confidence for rain and snow details for each day, especially Saturday and Sunday.

Headline for Friday 30 Dec 2022: Heavy rain in morning, drier and brighter in afternoon. Southwesterly gales.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 30 Dec 2022

Blizzards Low Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** Low Likelihood
Gales High Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** High Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** High Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Sleet	Cloudy	Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability					
>95%	>95%	50%	30%	30%	30%

Forecast for Friday 30 Dec 2022

Weather: Rain will be continuous and often heavy through the morning. Becoming drier from early afternoon with a few bright or clear intervals and scattered showers, wintry above 800m.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Less than 10% in morning, improving to 60% in afternoon.

Low cloud and visibility: Poor in the morning with extensive cloud and fog above 500m giving difficult navigation conditions. Summit blizzards in the early hours. Improving in the afternoon with cloud lifting to about 800m but brief reductions in visibility in showers.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Forecast for Friday 30 Dec 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	64/75 S	61/72 S	34/43 SW	50/63 SW	48/60 SW	34/44 SW	26/33 SW
600	48/61 S	48/62 S	27/37 SW	41/55 SW	37/50 SW	27/38 SW	21/30 SW
300	13/45 S	16/49 S	9/29 SW	16/44 SW	13/40 SW	11/31 SW	8/23 SW
Valley	12/42 S	16/45 S	10/26 SW	17/41 SW	15/38 SW	12/29 SW	7/19 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	2/-8	3/-7	2/-5	1/-8	1/-8	1/-7	1/-6
600	3/-5	4/-4	4/-2	4/-4	3/-5	3/-4	3/-3
300	5/1	6/1	6/3	6/2	5/1	5/2	5/2
Valley	7/4	8/4	8/5	8/4	7/4	7/4	7/5
Freezing Level*	1400m	1600m	1300m	1100m	1000m	1000m	1000m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Continuous rain and very strong winds giving very unpleasant and potentially hazardous walking conditions in the morning. Drier in the afternoon but note that winds will remain strong all day.

Forecast for Saturday 31 Dec 2022

Weather: A spell of continuous rain and summit sleet overnight, heavy at times. This will clear in the morning but staying mostly cloudy with occasional showers or longer spells of rain, turning to snow above 700m in the afternoon. There is a small chance of hail and thunder.

Maximum wind: Southwesterly 25mph gusts 35mph, easing slightly in the afternoon.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10% overnight and morning, becoming 60% in afternoon.

Low cloud and visibility: Poor overnight and morning with extensive cloud and fog above 400m. Improving in the afternoon with cloud lifting and breaking but brief reductions in visibility in showers with cloud lowering at times.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 5C rising to 8C.
At 800m: Plus 2C.
Freezing level: Above summits, falling to 900m in afternoon.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement
Date: Thursday 29 December 2022 Location: Col between Swirral Edge and Catstye Cam at 13:30
Full report: A windy day with unpredictable and squally gale-force gusts over the higher fells and wintery showers passing through fairly regularly. The majority of precipitation that fell today was soft hail (graupel) and when combined with the driving winds made conditions very challenging in exposed areas (goggles are extremely useful for comfort and for navigating safely in these conditions).
The majority of the lakeland fells are snow-free, however, large knee-deep drifts are still present in sheltered spots and hollows on Helvellyn's summit plateau, but more specifically on north and east-facing slopes above 800m, where small and potentially unstable cornices are also present around corrie rims. Swirral and Striding edge are in winter condition and were a mixture of soft snow and rock today (albeit more rock than snow!). Milder conditions with severe upland gales are forecast tomorrow so anyone venturing out should expect similar conditions to those described here. Full winter clothing including spare layers, hats and gloves, a map, compass and headtorch are all essential. As previously mentioned, goggles are also recommended. Anyone planning steep and exposed routes above the snowline are advised to carry an ice axe and crampons or microspikes. Temperature: plus 0.5 C, Maximum wind speed 42.9 mph, Wind chill: minus 6.4 C, Average wind speed: 17.2 mph.
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Issued at: 02:34 on Fri 30 Dec 2022

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